

Appl. No. : **10/007,797**
Filed : **November 7, 2001**

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed October 22, 2003, Applicant has amended the application as above. No new matter is added by the amendments as discussed below. Applicant respectfully requests the entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the remarks set forth below.

Discussion of Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 4, 7, and 8 have been amended. No new matter is added by the amendments. Applicant respectfully requests the entry of the amendments.

Discussion of Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,407,124 to Bose. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the filler alloy consists essentially of two or more of the elements Al, Si, Cu, and Zn. The relative amounts of these elements are adjusted to bring the liquidus and solidus temperatures of the brazing alloy to advantageous values. In contrast to Al, Si, Cu, and Zn as presently claimed, Bose uses about 20% Ag in the brazing alloy of the '124 patent, which is very expensive material. An alloy that can be used at low temperatures and for high speed brazing processes without requiring such expensive metals is beneficial in the art. The applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-3 are therefore in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is requested.

Discussion of Amended Claims 4, 7, and 8

Claims 4, 7, and 8 were objected to as being dependent on rejected Claim 1, but otherwise allowable. These claims have been amended to be independent with their original set of limitations. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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